



Minutes Committee for Youth, Families and Community November 10, 2009

Minutes of the Committee for Youth, Families and Community held November 10, 2009 at the Tempe Public Library Connections Program Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

MEMBERS Present:

Randy Lazar, Tempe Union High School District
Bobbie Cassano, Tempe Community Council
Lynette Stonefeld, Tempe/Kyrene Communities In Schools
Ilene Dode, Tempe Resident/EMPACT-SPC
Alan Anderson, Checkmate Chess Instruction/TIE Foundation
Luis Morales, Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.
Nejra Sumic, Community Bridges
Celeste Plumlee, Tempe Resident
Joe Spracale, Tempe Impact Education Foundation
Barb Fries, Tempe Elementary School District
Norm Saba, Cardon Children's Hospital

MEMBERS Absent:

Rebecca Bond, Tempe Connections
Maria Holmes, Association for Supportive Childcare
Rae Godson, Tempe Resident
Vic Cordts, Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley
Amanda Hamm, Kyrene School District

City Staff Present:

Kim Bauman, Community Services – Social Services
Tim Cox, Community Services - Social Services
Roni Alexander, Community Services – Social Services
Heather Penner, Police Department
Nancy Rodriguez, Municipal Court

Guests Present:

Denise Lopez, Magellan Health Services
Jessica Smith, Arizona Students Against Destructive Decisions
Michael Valdez, Chicanos Por La Causa, Mano Coalition
Carlos Aquino, Tempe Youth Leader

Julio Romero, Tempe Youth Leader
Ramses Esquer, Tempe Youth Leader
Oscar Ramirez, Tempe Youth Leader

Meeting convened at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: Ilene Dode called the meeting to order. Introductions were made.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes from October 13, 2009 Meeting

The minutes from October 13, 2009 were reviewed.

MOTION: Joe Spracale motioned to approve the minutes.

SECOND: Heather Penner seconded the motion.

COMMITTEE CONSENSUS: Minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3- Presentation: Arizona Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)

- 1) **Jessica Smith, Arizona Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)** gave a presentation on SADD efforts in Arizona.
 - The mission of SADD is to provide students with the best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with the issues of underage drinking, drug use, impaired driving, and other destructive decisions.
 - SADD was originally founded as Students Against Drunk Driving. In 1999 the organization expanded its focus to include other types of destructive decisions. Each school chapter identifies what their issues are and addresses them.
 - There are approximately 300 SADD chapters in Arizona and are primarily located in high schools. SADD is also involved with community groups.
 - The SADD organization does not solicit schools and organizations to form chapters. Rather they provide resources to interested parties. The purpose of SADD is to assist students in helping other students make positive decisions about challenges in their everyday lives.
 - Arizona SADD receives very little funding so they try to team up with other agencies and law enforcement. There is only one full-time volunteer staff person for their organization and many other part-time volunteers.
 - The success of a SADD chapter is largely dependent upon the chapter having a strong adult advisor to work with the students and also strong youth leaders. This advisor could be an interested parent or other adult.
 - There are many benefits to having a SADD club including it reinforces a lifestyle for students, is inclusive, and is a place for youth to fit in.
- 2) Discussion then occurred about SADD's involvement in previous efforts to pass a keg registration law.
 - SADD worked on previous efforts and discovered there was huge resistance to passing a keg registration law.
 - Current state budget cuts are very alarming. There are 11,000 liquor licenses in Arizona and if the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control experiences further budget cuts they will only have four staff in the entire state to ensure compliance with the laws in bars, retail outlets, etc.

- Coalitions and communities need to let their legislatures know that the State cannot continue to experience funding cuts in prevention and in enforcement. Youth can be a powerful voice in getting that message out.
- 3) Discussion then occurred on how coalitions and communities can get involved in legislative action.
- Jessica Smith cautioned members on having youth meet with their state legislatures without first knowing how receptive they will be. They had youth present to legislatures in the past and they were very negatively received.
 - It is important to meet with local representatives and senators to see if they will oppose keg registration efforts.
 - **Nejra Sumic, Community Bridges** suggested we get facts, information and research from the police departments on whether they would support keg registration efforts. **Heather Penner, Tempe Police Department** reported she began tracking how many parties and other liquor law violations involved kegs and if anyone was charged when the Tempe PD respond to calls 18 months ago.
 - Discussion also occurred on how Tempe's loud party ordinance differs from Tucson's. Heather agreed to present on the Tempe's loud party ordinance at our next meeting.

Agenda Item 4- Subcommittee Updates

- 1) **Bobbie Cassano** provided the following update on the marketing subcommittee.
- There was a great article on coalition efforts in the Arizona Republic recently. Copies of the article will be distributed at the December meeting.
 - So far we have received one official entry for the logo contest.
 - The criteria for judging the contest was finalized and next month the committee will review the entries and narrow down to eight to ten for final judging.
 - Youth judges will view the entries on the coalition's My Space site and make their selection using an on-line survey. They will also include a statement on why they chose their selection.
 - The youth judges will consist of representatives from the Westside and Northside Community Center Boys and Girls Clubs, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission, and the Tempe Top Youth Leaders.
 - The peer leadership group (Tempe Top Youth Leaders) has agreed to put together a My Space site and help manage it with input from their advisor Tricia Gilman and from Bobbie. The web site will include articles on underage drinking, the coalition, links to organizations, and information. There will be two distinct audiences: youth and adults. The peer leaders would also like to be able to have stories written by youth on what they experience and see regarding substance use/abuse on the site.
- 2) **Lynette Stonefeld** and **Bobbie Cassano** provided the following update on the keg registration subcommittee:
- There are discussions occurring with local liquor businesses regarding voluntary keg registration. Voluntary keg registration is being explored in Tucson. However, it is unlikely this would have much impact in Tempe as we surrounded by other communities.
- 3) **Lynette Stonefeld** provided the following update on the data collection subcommittee efforts:
- All three school districts in Tempe have agreed to participate in the Arizona Youth Survey.

Agenda Item 5 – Communities for Kids Update

Lynette Stonefeld reported that 60 parents will graduate from the Fall "Don't Wait to Educate" series. The Winter/Spring series will be provided at three community sites and on the Compadre/Evans campus. Free child care is provided. Future funding remains questionable so interested parents should sign up for the next series.

Agenda Item 6 – Other Grant and Program Updates

- 1) **Kim Bauman, City of Tempe** reported the direct service components of the Magellan grant are on schedule. All Stars is being provided at five middle schools, Too Good For Drugs is being provided at Laird and Thew, and the Tempe Top Youth Leaders are becoming very active in coalition efforts.
- 2) **Carlos Aquino, Tempe Top Youth Leader** provided some information on the peer leaders' efforts. Any teenager who wants to add meaning to their lives can join them. They are trying to get across the message to keep away from drugs and alcohol. This year they group is really beginning to define themselves. They are hosting events that emphasize being alcohol and drug free, including a Family Game Day on November 21st. This event is for kids and their parents. They plan to show substance abuse education videos and also have interactive games. They are working on the coalition web page and want to have youth be able to share their stories. **Roni Alexander, City of Tempe** suggested seeing if English teachers could offer writing about their experiences to students for extra credit.

Agenda Item 7 – Announcements

- 1) **Lynette Stonefeld** announced the Teen Resource Center on the Compadre/Evans campus has served approximately 200 students and give out 1,200 clothing items since opening this Fall. The Center is looking for adult volunteers to staff the center Tuesday through Thursday 1-4 p.m.
- 2) **Joe Spracale, Tempe Impact Education Foundation** reported the Family Resource Centers have served approximately 500 families this year. They are in need of socks, clothes, and other personal items.
- 3) **Jessica Smith, AZ SADD** announced that coalitions outside of Arizona have displayed the "Take Action: Start Talking Before Start Drinking" display in pediatrician offices and the coalition may want to explore this. **Norm Saba, Cardon Children's Hospital** notified committee members that for the past 18 years he has written a newsletter that is distributed to all the pediatricians in the Valley. He offered to include information in the newsletter on underage drinking and related topics if the coalition would like to forward these to him.

Agenda Item 8– Future Agenda Items

- Mano Coalition Presentation
- Tempe's Large Parties, Gatherings, Events Ordinance
- Summer Chess Academy Presentation
- Please contact Kim Bauman or Bobbie Cassano for future agenda items.

The committee's next meeting will be on **December 8, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Kim Bauman


Ilene Dode, Chair
